

**Title:** Training and Competency – We All have a Role to Play

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**Abstract**

The human factor is often a hidden contributor towards DP incidents. Incidents continue to be reported from vessels within the 500m zone of installations and from DP vessels involved in critical operations in the offshore industry. Certification is not a guarantee of competence and continual professional development is essential. To operate DP vessels team work is required and clients, vessel owners, training establishments, regulators, auditors and seafarers can all contribute. Time needs to be found for operational and emergency drills and key DP personnel need to understand the role of others.

Applicable international guidance is contained in IMO MSC/Circ.645/738, dated 1996, *Guidelines for the Training and Experience of Key DP Personnel*, which is a direct copy of the entire text of IMCA M117 - *The training and experience of key DP personnel*.

The consequences of getting it wrong can be catastrophic so this paper explores what is required in order to provide a competent and committed crew on board a DP vessel.